

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1454

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the study and approval of lethal pesticides for feral hog control.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 76, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 76.048 to read as follows:

Sec. 76.048. FERAL HOG TOXICANTS; STUDY REQUIRED. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the department may not register or otherwise approve for use in this state a lethal pesticide, including warfarin, for feral hog control unless a study under Subsection (b) recommends the pesticide be registered for that use.

(b) A state agency or institution of higher education may perform a scientific study of potential feral hog control measures in this state. The study must:

(1) include controlled field trials;

(2) examine the potential use of warfarin or other lethal pesticides for feral hog control;

(3) assess the economic consequences to hunters, hunting and sporting industries, agricultural interests, and property owners of the control measures included in the study; and

(4) assess the environmental consequences of the control measures included in the study.

(c) A state agency or institution of higher education shall publish the findings, recommendations, and results of a study under

1 Subsection (b) in the Texas Register.

2 (d) A state agency or institution of higher education that  
3 performs a study under Subsection (b) is subject to Chapters 551 and  
4 552, Government Code, in connection with the study and any  
5 meetings, hearings, or research conducted or public comments  
6 received in connection with the study.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.